

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONCUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
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USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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BRUSSELS FOR EEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SOCI, PROP, RO
SUBJ: EXCISING OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL FROM JOURNAL
PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND COMMUNISM: ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION
OF RCP INDEPENDENCE
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1. ONE OF MORE INTERESTING SPEECHES AT LAST WEEK'S RCP
CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM WAS THAT OF ELDERLY JEWISH IN-
TELLECTUAL AND LONG-TIME (23 YEARS) CC MEMBER BARBU
ZAHARESCU, WHO MADE MATTER OF RECORD RCP POLICY TOWARD
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST JOURNAL PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND
SOCIALISM.

2. RCP PARTICIPATION SINCE FOUNDING OF JOURNAL 20 YEARS AGO HAD BEEN GUIDED, ZAHARESCU SAID, BY POSITIVE CONSIDERATION OF PROMOTING FRIENDSHIP AND COLLABORATION WITH ALL COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES, AND, IN FIRST INSTANCE, WITH THOSE IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ROMANIAN CONTRIBUTIONS HAD RESPECTED INDEPENDENCE OF ALL PARTIES AND RIGHT OF EACH TO DEVELOP ITS OWN NATIONAL POLICIES WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM OTHER PARTIES, HE CLAIMED, AND HAD AVOIDED POLEMICS AND PUBLIC CRITICISM IN CASES OF DISAGREEMENT. THE PROBLEM, IN RCP EYES, ZAHARESCU MADE CLEAR, WAS THAT OTHERS HAD NOT ADHERED TO SAME PRACTICES. "IN SOME PUBLISHED MATERIALS, AS AT SOME CONFERENCES, THERE HAVE APPEARED ATTACKS AIMED AT SOME PARTIES--INSULTING LABELS--WHICH IN NO WAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF UNITY..." THIS, HE ASSERTED, IS IN VIOLATION OF THE UNDERSTANDING REACHED IN 1959, WHICH HE QUOTES" "IN THE PAGES OF THIS JOURNAL IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO DISCUSS THE DIFFERENCES THAT EXIST BETWEEN SOME PARTIES." HAVING SET FORTH JUSTIFICATION, ZAHARESCU ANNOUNCED THAT RCP HAS STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT IT NOT LONGER PUBLISHES AND WILL NOT AGAIN PUBLISH SUCH POLEMIC MATERIAL IN ROMANIAN LANGUAGE EDITION.

3. COMMENT: THIS APPEARS TO BE CULMINATION OF LONG-STANDING DISPUTE BETWEEN RCP AND SOVIET-DOMINATED MANAGED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MENT OF PRAGUE-BASED VESTIGE OF COMINFORM PERIOD. ROMANIAN POLICY IN PAST HAS VARIED BETWEEN TONING DOWN CRITICISM BY BRIEF DELETIONS OF MOST OFFENSIVE PHRASES TO OUTRIGHT REFUSAL TO PUBLISH ON TOPICS SUCH AS CHINA AND DUBCEK ERA IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. ROMANIAN LANGUAGE EDITION IS CURRENTLY SEVERAL MONTHS BEHIND IN PUBLICATION--PERIOD LONGER THAN JUSTIFIED BY TRANSLATION LAG. TIMING OF THIS STATEMENT, AS WELL POSSIBLY AS REFERENCE TO CONFERENCE, SUGGESTS RCP MADE FINAL EFFORT TO RESOLVE MATTER OF POLEMICAL CONTENT OF JOURNAL AT RECENT BUDAPEST CONFERENCE OF PARTY IDEOLOGUES AND FAILED TO OBTAIN SATISFACTORY ASSURANCES OF STRICT FUTURE ADHERENCE TO TERMS OF 1959 UNDERSTANDING, OR WERE QUERIED ON THEIR HERETOFORE UNPUBLICIZED POLICY DURING CONFERENCE DISCUSSION ON COMMON PROPAGANDA THEMES AND REFUSED TO BE PRESSURED INTO CONFORMITY. IT PROBABLY SAFE TO ASSUME SANTIAGO CARILLO WAS INFORMED OF OUTCOME AND GOR DECISION TO MAKE MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD ITS PRACTICE WITH RESPECT TO JOURNAL FOR, IN CONCRETE TERMS, A GOOD DEAL OF GOR CONCERN OVER JOURNAL'S POLEMIC CONTENT ALMOST CERTAINLY STEMS FROM INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN MOSCOW'S AND BUCHAREST'S APPROACH TO EUROCOMMUNISM. ONCE AGAIN, THEREFORE, GOR IS PROVING UNCOMPROMISINGLY STUBBORN IN

DEFENSE OF PRINCIPLE OF INDEPENDENCE OF NATIONAL PARTIES;
IN THIS INSTANCE, IN STRICT ADHERENCE TO ITS POLICY OF
REFUSING TO ALLOW CIRCULATION WITHIN ROMANIA OF VIEWS
HOSTILE TO THOSE PARTIES.

4. IT IS WORTH NOTING IN THIS CONTEXT THAT IT WAS PROUDLY
OBSERVED DURING CC PLENUM THAT RCP MAINTAINS (FRIENDLY)
RELATIONS WITH 90 COMMUNIST PARTIES, 23 SOCIALIST OR
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTIES, 24 OTHER PARTIES OR POLITICAL
ORGANIZATIONS IN DEVELOPING CAPITALIST COUNTRIES, 53 GOVERN-
MENT PARTIES AND 21 OTHER PARTIES AND PROGRESSIVE ORGANI-
ZATIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SIX NATIONAL LIBER-
TION MOVEMENTS; TO ALL OF WHICH GOR APPLIES SAME BASIC
POLICY OF AVOIDING POLEMICS. WITH VERY RARE EXCEPTIONS,
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SAME POLICY APPLIES TO THE 130 GOVERNMENTS WITH WHICH GOR
MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

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